

REPORT

OF

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

46 174

INDIA OFFICE

17 DEC 1884

Week ending the 15th November 1884.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Sansodhini"	Chittagong ...	700	
2	"Tripurá Vártávaḥa"	Comillah ...	.....
3	"Prem Pracháriní"	Nawabgunge, Barrack-pore.	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
4	"Alok"	Calcutta ...	.....
5	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Ditto ...	700	10th November 1884.
6	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	102	7th ditto.
7	"Bangabási"	Ditto ...	12,000	8th ditto.
8	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....
9	"Bhárat Hitaisi"	Burrisal ...	450	
10	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensingh ...	625	
11	"Bardwán Sanjiváni"	Burdwan ...	296	11th ditto.
12	"Bikrampore Patriká"	Dacca ...	756	
13	"Cháruvartá"	Sherepore, Mymensingh	529	
14	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	425	9th ditto.
15	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	800	7th ditto.
16	"Grámvartá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	500	8th ditto.
17	"Halisahar Prakáshiká"	Calcutta ...	.....
18	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rajshahye ..	200	5th ditto.
19	"Játiya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	700	
20	"Medini"	Midnapore ...	500	
21	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	437	
22	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....
23	"Navavibhakar"	Calcutta ...	850	10th ditto.
24	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	440	
25	"Prajá Bandhu"	Chandernagore ...	900	7th ditto.
26	"Prántavási"	Chittagong ...	600	
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	600	7th ditto.
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah ...	.....
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore ...	220	6th ditto.
30	"Sádharani"	Calcutta ...	500	9th ditto.
31	"Sahachar"	Ditto ...	500	5th ditto.
32	"Samaya"	Ditto ...	1,500	10th ditto.
33	"Sanjivani"	Ditto ...	4,000	8th ditto.
34	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca ...	345	
35	"Shakti"	Calcutta ...	.....
36	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá, 24-Perghs.	1,000	10th ditto.
37	"Sulabha Samáchar"	Calcutta ...	3,000	
38	"Surabhi"	Ditto ...	700	11th ditto.
39	"Udbodhan"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik Vártá"	Calcutta ...	450	
41	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto ...	225	7th to 14th, November 1884.
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	7th to 12th ditto.
43	"Samachár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	5th to 10th ditto.
44	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	520	7th to 14th ditto.
45	"Prabháti"	Ditto ...	1,000	8th to 11th & 13th ditto.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
46	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	8th ditto.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
48	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	6th ditto.
49	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	500	3rd ditto.
50	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	300	1st & 8th ditto.
51	"Hindi Samáchar"	Bhagulpore ...	700	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
52	"Jám-Jahan-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	100	7th ditto.
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akhbar"	Behar ...	250	
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
55	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	8th ditto.
ASSAMESE.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
56	"Assam Vilásini"	Sibsagar ...	.....
57	"Assam News"	Ditto ...	450	
URIYA.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
58	"Utkal Dipika"	Cuttack ...	250	25th October 1884.
59	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	200	28th ditto.
60	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	116	
<i>Monthly.</i>				
61	"Sebaka"	Cuttack ...	200	
62	"Taraka"	Ditto ...	.....
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
63	"Kshatriya Patrika"	Patna ...	400	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
64	"Chumparun Hitakari"	Bettia ...	.....

POLITICAL.

The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 3rd November, says that Government will not derive any benefit from supplying the faithless Afghans with arms and ammunition and by entering into friendly relations with them. Government will be strengthened if it treats Native Princes well, supplies them with arms and ammunition, and gets their troops trained by English Generals.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
Nov. 3rd, 1884.

2. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 6th November, says that newspapers in England are recommending that the number of troops of the Native Princes should be diminished, inasmuch as these troops are a source of danger to Government. The writer says that though the Mussulman Emperors belonged, like the English, to another nationality, they obtained much help from the troops of Native Princes, and did not apprehend any danger from them. Why then do the English fear these troops from whom they can obtain much help without having to maintain them? It is a matter of regret that the English have not treated Native Princes so well as to make their hostility impossible. The writer hopes that Government will henceforth treat them well.

BHARAT MITRA,
Nov. 6th, 1884.

3. The *Sádháraní*, of the 9th November, says that several articles have appeared in the *Times* about the army of the Native Princes. Some say that they are from the pen of Mr. Grant Duff, and others say that they have been contributed by Sir Lepel Griffin. Others again believe that those articles have been sent from the Foreign Office. The object of these articles is to have the number of the troops of the Native Princes diminished. The writer of the above articles says that Native Princes should not be allowed to maintain troops. A number of policemen will be sufficient for the purpose of keeping the peace in their States. The contributor of those articles also says that the Princes are sucking dry the lifeblood of their subjects by maintaining troops. The Editor asks if the contributor is so much sorry for the people, why does he not try to prevent the sucking of the lifeblood of the subjects under British rule? Is it not better to first reform one's own house and then advise others? The contributor does not fear the Mussulman Princes. He only fears the Hindu Princes. He says that the Mussulman Princes did not oppose the establishment of the British dominion in India, and that only the Hindu Princes did so. The English had to fight with the Maharatta Princes alone for establishing their dominion in India. It is true that the Sikhs also fought hard, but they have since become so loyal that there is no reason for apprehending any mischief from them. The contributor apprehends that the Rajput Princes, who are the co-religionists of the Maharattas, may join the latter. The contributor contradicts himself. In one place he says that troops of the Native Princes are despicable. In another place he shudders at the vast number of those troops, and apprehends danger. It is the object of the contributor to strike terror into the hearts of the people of England. He has said that Government will be able to ascertain the feelings of the Native Princes if it tries to disband their troops. If they have any evil intentions they will object to the proposal. If they object, it will be evident that they have evil intentions. If the Native Princes rise against Government at the requirement that their troops should be disbanded, they can be easily quelled now. From the manner of the contributor's writing, it is evident that he wishes that the Natives Princes should be ruined. This will enlarge the field of employment of Englishmen no doubt, but it may produce evil consequences in future.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

4. The same paper says that Ram Mohun Roy foresaw that the first Reform Bill would benefit the whole world. The writer expects the same amount of good from the third Reform Bill, and firmly believes that India will be in some measure benefited by the passing of that Bill. For this reason he calls upon the 250 millions of Indians to give cheers for the Ministry, for Messrs. Gladstone and Bright, for the English public, and for the Queen.

SAMVAD PURNA-
CHANDRODAYA,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

5. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 10th November, says that some people in England are opposed to the maintenance of armies by Native Princes in India. They forget the amount of help the Government has received from these armies. The army charges of the British Government were much less before the mutiny when Government maintained a large native army. Government now thinks a large native army a great source of danger. The advocates of the abolition of the armies of Native Princes see no necessity for these armies. If there is any necessity for keeping armies, Native Princes, it is said, should keep European armies. The subjects of Native Princes, says the Editor, are very happy. There is neither extortion nor oppression in their States. The Native Princes are falsely charged with interested motives. These vilifiers want to provide their countrymen with a livelihood by making them soldiers in the armies of these Princes. The English forget themselves in their anxiety to promote the interest of their countrymen.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

6. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 10th November, remarks:—Cashmere, it is feared, is at length about to slip away from the hands of natives. Why should it remain in their possession? Cashmere is an earthly paradise fit for the residence of Englishmen alone. Englishmen cannot bear the idea that this State has so long retained its independence. The *Pioneer* and other leading papers are on the look out for faults on the part of the Maharajah, and his little shortcomings are being magnified and proclaimed to the world. Natives are afraid that Cashmere will soon become a British territory. The British merchant, the British missionary, and the British cannon are the invariable pioneers of British conquest. The British merchant has now turned his eyes towards Cashmere, and who can say what the result of this will be? It would appear that the fulfilment of Runjeet Singh's prophecy that all will become red on the map of India is not far off.

It is true there is oppression in Cashmere. But what place is free from it? Is there no oppression in the well-governed British territories? Are not innocent people here imprisoned? Does this statement require any proof? Do not the police oppress here or officials take bribes? Are not inequitable taxes imposed upon the subjects in British territories? Wherein then is the Maharajah to blame? Of course his fault is that he is a native of India. "I shall take your kingdom; do what you can." To this, of course, there is no reply. But if this be the object, why not state it explicitly?

It is possible Englishmen might think of taking possession of Cashmere on the consideration that, in the event of a Russian invasion, such a step would conduce to the safety of the Indian Empire. If that were the object, the proper course would be to keep the Maharajah in good humour. The people of Ladak and other places who are skilled in mountain warfare are exceedingly loyal to him. Would they support the cause of the British Government if the Maharajah were not treated with proper consideration? Englishmen of course say that his subjects are not well-disposed towards the Maharajah. How far this is true cannot be said. One thing is certain, namely, that this cry has been invariably raised whenever there has been an intention to annex an independent State.

7. The same paper remarks that Lord Dufferin's friendship with the Russian Foreign Minister notwithstanding, it is almost certain that Russia will ere long attempt an invasion of India. It will not be wise for the British Government, in view of that contingency, to occupy Herat. The task will prove formidable. The best course for the Indian Government will be to remain within the Indian frontier, to conciliate the Native Princes and the native population.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

8. The *Surabhi*, of the 11th November, says that it is very glad to learn that the French have been completely defeated in Tonquin. France is now trying to get out of the quarrel. It is said that England has undertaken the task of establishing peace between France and China by acting as mediator. The European powers have now become filled with the ambition of trampling upon the people of Asia. The more therefore they are thwarted the better.

SURABHI,
Nov. 11th, 1884.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

9. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 1st November, says that native papers do not expose the oppressive proceedings of the officials with the object of discrediting Government, but with the object of making British rule stainless. Why then is Government offended at this? It is strange that the Lieutenant-Governor considers the *Englishman* and the *Bengal Times*, which abused Lord Ripon in vulgar terms, moderate, while he has blamed the native papers which never make such false accusations. If native papers do not represent public opinion, but only the opinion of their conductors, why did Government gag them; why were three to four thousand persons assembled at the Town Hall to protest against their gagging; and why is the sum of three or four thousand rupees spent by Government upon their translation? The writer is sorry that Mr. Thompson has not been able to form a right opinion about the native papers, though he has been in this country for a long time. He has only repeated the observations made by Sir Ashley Eden seven years ago. Had not native papers agitated about the Kishnagore students' case, how would Mr. Thompson have been able to do justice? Does Mr. Thompson want that native papers will not bring to his notice the oppressive proceedings of the officials? Native papers cannot sit silent after seeing the decisions in the Webb and Francis cases.

UCHIT VAKTA,
Nov. 1st, 1884.

10. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 5th November, hears that the work of the Beaulah-Nattore Tramway will be very soon taken in hand. This is a work of very great public utility. The Commissioner of the Rajshahye Division is requested very earnestly to lay the people under a great obligation by commencing the work at his earliest convenience.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
Nov. 5th, 1884.

11. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor's resolution on the Kishnagore student's case is reassuring. It appears that he has shaken off his sleep. The natives were hopeless of obtaining any redress from him against officers prone to oppression. Students of several schools were punished with great severity. The Magistrate of Chittagong illtreated a helpless woman, and Mr. Rattray caused several men to be killed in the case of Azim Chowdry of Dulai. But Mr. Thompson did not move. His resolution on the present case has laid the people under great obligation.

HINDU RANJIKÁ.

12. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th November, sympathizes with Mr. Walker, who, even if he be guilty, has been very harshly treated. When even a European planter has received such treatment at the hands of the police, it can be easily conceived what great oppression is committed upon natives.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 5th, 1884.

The writer is surprised at the action of the *Englishman* and the *Indian Daily News* which are expressing their opinion about the Purneah case, though it is *sub judice*. The writer says that the Police Superintendent, Mr. Beamish, should not be now transferred from Purneah. The public are under the impression that Mr. Thompson is a friend of the planters and hostile to natives. The transfer of Mr. Beamish in the course of the trial will prevent the Sub-Inspector from getting witnesses. People will think that the Lieutenant-Governor is on the side of Mr. Walker, and consequently will not venture to give evidence against him. The writer hopes that Mr. Thompson will admit the possibility of such an impression gaining ground. Mr. Thompson should not transfer Mr. Beamish, at least for the sake of his dignity and impartiality.

SAHACHAR.
Nov. 5th, 1884.

13. The same paper says that native drivers have been employed on the Central Bengal Railway. The writer supposes that the Defence Association will be dissatisfied at this. The *Englishman* and other English journals say that native drivers do not possess presence of mind. These papers also say that native drivers injure the engine and rails more than European drivers. The writer says that there is no foundation for the first charge. On the contrary the driver Nazir of the Calcutta-South-Eastern State Railway on two occasions saved the lives of two boys by jumping down from the engine while the train was in motion. The other day an engine was running away in the Dinapore station owing to the carelessness of a European driver. But a native fireman stopped the engine by getting upon it. There is no apprehension about native drivers' getting drunk.

SAHACHAR.

14. The same paper is sorry that the Lieutenant-Governor has again laid himself open to blame, only by his carelessness. He has said that though the Anglo-Indian journals had lost moderation and good feeling, which are their honourable characteristics, during the Ilbert Bill agitation, they have recovered, but that the native papers continue to write in an objectionable spirit. The writer is sorry that Mr. Thompson has published such a resolution at a time when many native papers are trying to bring about a reconciliation between Mr. Thompson and the public. Is it true, asks the writer, that the English journals have recovered? Is it not true that these papers abuse Indians—and specially Bengalis? The railway authorities declared that not the station-master but the deceased driver Cummings was responsible for the Aranghatta accident. Still the English journals continued to cry against native station-masters, native drivers, and native firemen so long as Mr. Tayler did not endorse the opinion of Major Gordon after due investigation. What does Mr. Thompson mean by saying that native papers calumniate the officials? Is it not true that many officials are doing what they please under Mr. Thompson? Is not Mr. Thompson aware that people do not now feel safe as before? People do not now expect a remedy for oppression committed by a Magistrate. They believe that Mr. Thompson will not say anything to the officials—and specially to the English officials. No English journal has protested against the Nuddea students' case. But native papers condemn English officials as also native officials when they are guilty of any injustice. A ruler should be careful in applying the word disloyal. Devotion to the sovereign and to the Royal Family is called loyalty. Native editors revere Lord Ripon and the Government of India. Every native paper desires the stability of British dominion in India. No native paper ever wanted, like the *Englishman*, to destroy the power of the Queen and to establish a Republic. The Lieutenant-Governor has leniently called such writings exceptions to the moderation of the English journals. But he considers the complaints made by native papers against officials disloyal. Is any one guilty of disloyalty in saying that everybody is dissatisfied with

Mr. Thompson, and that the public will consider his departure as a blessing? Mr. Thompson may think so, but the Home Government surely does not. Sir Ashley Eden said that native papers did not represent the opinion of the public. If this is true, what is the use of making so much noise over the writings of those powerless papers? Mr. Thompson should know that native papers represent the public opinion and wield some influence.

15. The same paper is glad that Mr. Thompson has made proper arrangements for removing the distress of the people of Beerbhoom. He has intimated that two lakhs will be spent upon relief works. This proves that Mr. Thompson will now entitle himself to the reverence of the people by his measures.

SAHACHAR,
Nov. 5th, 1884.

16. The same paper is glad that the Lieutenant-Governor has appointed Baboo Amritalal Chatterjea, Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore, for some time. Every Bengali will bless Mr. Thompson for this.

SAHACHAR.

17. The same paper is glad that Lord Ripon has addressed a despatch to the Secretary of State recommending that the standard of age for the Civil Service should be raised, and that all the Members of Council have agreed to the recommendation.

SAHACHAR.

18. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 6th November, says that if native papers are gagged, Government and the people of England will be entirely in the dark as to the feeling of Indians. Did Lord Ripon, asks the writer, repeal the Press Act without sufficient consideration?

BHARAT MITRA,
Nov. 6th, 1884.

19. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 6th November, says that a famine threatens Bengal. In districts, like Beerbhoom, the suffering of the people has become very great. It has become necessary to grant relief. The writer attributes the frequency of famines to the large exportation of grain, to the ruin of the manufacturing industries, and to the introduction of large foreign imports which are intrinsically worthless.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
Nov. 6th, 1884.

20. The same paper says that no Governor-General endeavoured to do so much good to India as Lord Ripon. His heart was liberal, and he is the advocate of an enlightened policy. It is a misfortune to India that all his wishes were not fulfilled. He had his weaknesses, and every one was sorry for this. It is also true that he was strenuously opposed, and still he shewed his sympathy with the natives in various ways. Unless the people of India accord him a hearty farewell, their national character will suffer in the eyes of the world.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH.

21. The *Education Gazette*, of the 7th November, hears that Lord Ripon has recommended the raising of the standard of age for the Civil Service Examination to the Secretary of State, and that the Members of his Council have supported him. If this is true, Lord Ripon has conferred a great benefit upon the people.

EDUCATION GAZETTE
Nov. 7th, 1884.

22. The *Prajābandhu*, of the 7th November, says that Oudh was, during the Mahomedan period, regarded as the garden of India; but English administration has, in a short time, ruined this fine province. The treaty which Sujaud-dowlah was obliged to sign after the battle of Buxar brought the English into close contact with the province. He had to pay Rs. 50,00,000 as indemnity for the war. From that time the English continually robbed the treasures and annexed the territories of the Nawab Vizier.

PRAJABANDHU,
Nov. 7th, 1884.

PRABANDHU,
Nov. 7th, 1884.

23. The same paper says that the time of Lord Ripon's return to his own country is near at hand. The people of India will never forget the troubles he received at the hands of his countrymen for wishing well of India.

PRABANDHU.

24. The same paper says that the power of the police is much greater in French territories than in the English. Wherever the subjects are turbulent and conspire against the Government the police is vested with great power. But the people of India are peaceful, therefore the police should not be here invested with extensive powers, which are sure to be abused.

SANVAD PRABHAKAR,
Nov. 7th, 1884.

25. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 7th November, says that the Bombay Government has ordered that prisoners before the High Court or the Courts of Sessions accused of the crime of murder, but unable to defend themselves, should be defended at the cost of the State. Nothing shews the greatness of the English nation more clearly than this.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 7th, 1884.

26. The *Pratikār*, of the 7th November, says that the Chief Commissioner of Assam considered the assault committed by Mr. Francis to be a fact in spite of the discovery of opium in the stomach of the deceased woman. The police report was not false, and the Civil Surgeon's examination was properly conducted. Are the Anglo-Indians getting mad? How do they support that hateful and brutal fellow, Francis? This lowers them in the estimation of the people.

PRATIKAR.

27. The same paper wants to know what right had Mr. Beames to give a broken tree in front of the Lalbagg court-house to a chaprasi as a reward. If a native Magistrate had done this he would certainly have been dismissed. The writer draws the attention of Government to this matter, and says if the Government does not take any steps to punish Mr. Beames, people will conclude that Government is extremely partial to Englishmen.

PRATIKAR.

28. The same paper says that a larger number of educated men should be employed in the Police Department than is done at the present time. The police is very much given to oppression. Is there no way of checking this or of putting a stop to the crimes of the police? The preservers of the peace are generally the authors of breach of the peace. The Government should pay its best attention to this subject. Mere resolutions would not do. These should be given effect to. Government should make private enquiries about the conduct of the police. The police officers are all corrupt, and their lust for illegal gratification is ever on the increase. The constables are very ill-paid. Government should increase their pay and that of police officers generally.

PRATIKAR.

29. The same paper is extremely sorry to record the death of the Nawab Nazim of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. With him the title of Nawab Nazim comes to an end.

PRATIKAR.

30. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Hilora, says that people in the Jungipore sub-division are suffering greatly from want of food, and that relief works have been opened in several places. About 300 men are working on the road from Gambhira to Hilora, but the work will very soon be finished. The writer recommends that Government should next undertake the repairs of the road from Bansabati to Hilora.

Another correspondent writing from Kotchandpur, Jessore, says that the prices of grain there are very high.

PRATIKAR,
Nov. 7th, 1884.

31. One writing to the same paper from Jessore says that the rearing of cattle has become extremely difficult on account of the rapacity of the pound-keepers. Whoever takes an animal to a pound gets a commission from the pound-keeper. Many earn their livelihood by taking animals to the pound. The pound-keepers, too, obtain a large profit by this means. The authorities should have an eye on them.

Lord Ripon.

32. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 7th November, thus concludes an article on

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA.
Nov. 7th, 1884.

Lord Ripon:—

“High-souled Lord Ripon ! You are leaving India before the completion of your term of office. But the holy and merciful celestial image, which you have consecrated into the hearts of the people of India, will not be destroyed even after ages. The people of India will worship it with veneration and devotion ; with a heart full of eternal gratitude. The image will serve as a standard by which to judge of the merits and demerits of future rulers.”

33. The *Bangabási*, of the 8th November, is glad to find that the rate-payers of Calcutta have re-elected the very Commissioners who shortly before this laid down their office to preserve their self-respect. The rate-payers have in a manner expressed their disapprobation of the step taken by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal in connection with the appointment of the Sanitary Committee. The re-election of the Commissioners has exasperated the *Englishman*, who now seems bent on devising means by which a large number of Europeans and Eurasians may have seats on the Municipal Committee. The *Englishman* says that the Commissioners who have once resigned are not entitled to be re-elected.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 8th, 1884.

34. The same paper says that the way in which Mr. Thompson has treated the Commissioners of the Calcutta Municipality plainly shows that he is opposed to self-government. But the writer expected that Mr. Thompson would treat the mofussil municipalities better. But he has been disappointed. The date of election has been fixed for the 25th of November, and the notification so fixing the date appeared in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 8th October, when most native newspapers were enjoying the Durga Puja holidays, and Bengalis were gone abroad to recruit their health after a year's hard work. The public has had no opportunities for discussing these rules which are very unjust. The time being very short, notices could not be circulated in proper time in many places.

BANGABASI

35. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson has sanctioned Rs. 5,000 more for the relief of the distressed at Nulhati. Road-making has been put a stop to, and it has been decided that people should be employed in digging tanks until arrangements for taking them to Setarampore have been completed. Mr. Thompson has asked for a grant of two lakhs of rupees from the Government of India to prevent the distress which threatens Murshedabad. He has also asked the Supreme Government to take the construction of the Ranaghat-Bhagwangola line in hand as soon as possible.

BANGABASI.

36. The same paper is glad to notice that Lord Ripon has ordered that all clerks under Government will be able to obtain the services of Government medical officers gratis, and will get medicines from Government dispensaries without payment.

BANGABASI.

Medical attendance on native employees of Government.

Mr. Thompson's tour in the famine districts.

The Calcutta Municipality.

Election in mofussil municipalities.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 8th, 1904.

37. The same paper says that the letter which the Chief Commissioner of Assam has addressed to the Defence Association, contains a hint that there has been a failure of justice in Mr. Francis' case, and that the agitation set on foot by the Association is in vain. The writer does not understand why Mr. Greer, who held a local investigation in Mr. Francis' case, and formed an opinion as to who was guilty, was transferred. The witnesses in this case were all coolies who were almost bond slaves to Europeans. They all deposed that Mr. Francis beat the deceased, and that she was unable to move owing to the hurt, and that she died that very night. The Civil Surgeon deposed that the blow she had received from Mr. Francis was the cause of her death, and that there was nothing to show that opium was the cause of her death. But the white colour of Mr. Francis made all these depositions ineffective, and he was released. The Defence Association, which all along paid the cost of Mr. Francis' defence, tried their best to prosecute the witnesses and the police officers for perjury, and abused the Civil Surgeon for making, what they considered, a mistake in his *post mortem* examination. The writer gives the depositions of the witnesses at length, and says that these will convince people that no injustice has been done to Mr. Francis, as the Association wants to prove.

BANGABASI.

38. The same paper says that in spite of the order of the Lieutenant-Governor not to prosecute anybody before the investigation ordered by Government was complete, the station-master of Aranghata was kept under surveillance. The writer does not understand why the guard, who does not appear to have done his duty, since, though he saw the danger signal from the distance of a mile, he made no efforts to stop the train, was not charged with any offence. The writer says it is very fortunate that the innocence of a native officer was proved by the investigation ordered by Government. Though he was perfectly innocent, still the anti-native papers were very hard upon the station-master. If they had been able to establish his guilt in any way, they would have rent the skies with their cries.

BANGABASI.

39. The same paper hears from its famine correspondent at Burdwan that, except in five or six places in the district, there will be no famine till March; but that nearly 75 per cent. of the people are suffering from scarcity. People will begin to die unless food is freely distributed in the thana of Bood-Bood. Twelve per cent. of men in Sahebgunge and Ausgram are suffering from scarcity. Annacchatras, or places for free distribution of food, should be opened at these two places. Scarcity prevails in the thana of Khandaghosh. The following villages, on the right bank of the Damudar, are in a wretched condition, viz. Bhasna, Banamalipur, Old Sanghat, Navagram, and Kemeti. Nineteen villages, on the left bank of the same river, are greatly suffering from want of food. The writer recommends that the following steps should be taken by the Government to save the ryots of the Khandaghosh thana, viz. (1) annacchatras should be opened; (2) rice should be sent to the houses of middle class men; and (3) relief work should be provided for the able-bodied. The relief works should be opened under the superintendence, not of Government, but of the villagers themselves.

The Satgachia correspondent of the same paper says that the condition of the Mahomedan quarter of the village named Palasan is really deplorable. There are many who cannot get even one meal a day. Babus Kaliprasanna De and Nimaichand De and Munshi Nababjan are constructing an embankment on the Banka at Dakalpur. The work maintains four to five hundred coolies, and if it is preserved it will protect the *rubi* crop of 40 to 50 villages.

The Bankoora correspondent of the same paper says that the lowr classes of about 20 villages in the Sonamuki thana cannot procure even one meal a day; that not a single cotta of land has been cultivated in about 10 villages in the same thana.

Another correspondent, writing to the same paper from Bankoora, says that in about 79 villages between the Damodar and the Sila in the same thana, people hardly get one meal a day.

The Beerbhoom correspondent of the same paper says that many villages in the thanas of Nabpur and Balpur are suffering greatly from the scarcity both of food and of water.

40. The same paper publishes a letter from Babu Umesh Chundra Das of Naopara in Kushtea, in the district of Nuddea, to the effect that the names of two

The accident at Aranghata.

persons, viz. Madari Sirdar and Hajjatun Sirdar, of Mirpur, do not appear in the list of those that lost their lives in the Aranghata accident. The writer says that an enquiry should be made why the names of these two men have not been included in the list of casualties. Many are labouring under the conviction that the names of many persons who lost their lives have not been included in the list.

BANGABASI,
Nov. 8th, 1894.

41. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th November, is glad to hear that Baboo Amritlal Chatterji has been appointed

Baboo Amritlal Chatterji.

Additional Civil and Assistant Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore. The writer thinks that if, instead of young Europeans, men like Amritlal Chatterji from the Uncovenanted Service are appointed to these posts, justice will in all probability be better administered.

SANJIVANI,
Nov. 8th, 1894.

42. The same paper learns from a trustworthy source that a letter has been addressed from the Bengal Sec-

The change of the date of elections in the mofussil.

retariat to the Lieutenant-Governor, recommending a change of the date fixed for holding elections in the mofussil. The writer hopes that the date will be fixed on Saturday, the 29th. But the writer is sorry that no notice has been taken of objections brought forward against the election rules.

SANJIVANI.

43. The same paper says an indigo-planter of Bankoora was charged with trespass. The Joint-Magistrate on enquiry thought that there was evidence against the

An indigo-planter's case in Bankoora.

accused. The planter claimed to be tried by a jury. But no jury would be empanelled in Bankoora, and so the case was transferred to Burdwan. But even there there was not a sufficient number of Europeans to form a jury, and so after much correspondence the High Court has called for the papers of the case. This is a proof that European offenders will not get adequate punishment under the Ilbert Act.

SANJIVANI.

44. The same paper says, on the strength of the statements of a correspondent of the *Indian Echo*, that

Mr. Macdonald, the Superintendent of the Terai.

Mr. Macdonald, the Superintendent of the Terai district, wished to eat fish. But no fish being available, he ordered that fish should be caught in a tank belonging to a Hindu temple. The keepers of the temple protested. But the gentleman was inexorable. He came himself to the temple and caught several fish and went away without paying the least regard to the religious prejudices of the keepers who believe killing fish to be a crime. Wounding religious feelings in this way is not good. Government should punish such officers severely.

SANJIVANI.

45. The same paper is glad to hear that Lord Ripon has kindly ordered that clerks in Government employ will have

Medical attendance on clerks.

medicines and the services of Government medical officers without payment. The clerks should shew their gratitude to Lord Ripon for this favour.

SANJIVANI.

SANJIVANI,
Nov 8th, 1884.

46. The same paper says that on the night of the Shyamapuja a goat belonging to Gopal Baboo, the father of the present Maharaja of Burdwan, was lost.

A case of police oppression.

A burkandaz was suspected of stealing it, and so he was made over to the police. He was kept in custody. But the next day he was found dead, and the dead body instead of being, according to rule, sent to the Civil Surgeon for *post mortem* examination, was examined by a native doctor and burnt. The affair has excited great suspicion.

SANJIVANI.

47. The same paper says that Baboo Khiruddin, the agent at Dickhang Sukh in Sibsagar, wanted to go to the upper platform of a steamer which stopped at that station.

Baboo Khiruddin.

Mr. Martin, the Engineer of the steamer, prevented him by saying "don't go." But the agent went on, and he was dragged down by his leg from the staircase.

SANJIVANI.

48. The same paper learns from its agent, especially deputed to report on the state of the crops in Meherpore, that people are suffering greatly from want of food

Famine in Meherpore.

in the following villages, namely Shyamnagar, Chandipore, Patkebari, and so on.

SANJIVANI.

49. The same paper in its previous issues attributed the frequency of famines to the want of the means of irrigation, the loss of fertility of the soil, and

The causes of famine.

the ignorance of the cultivators. It now adduces arguments in support of the position advanced. It says that the produce per acre in Akbar's time was estimated at $16\frac{1}{2}$ maunds of rice, 14 maunds of wheat, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ maunds of cotton, but at the present time the produce per acre is estimated at 11 maunds of rice, 8 maunds of wheat, and 26 seers of cotton. This shews that the land has lost much of its fertility. The want of the means of irrigation is proved by the fact that big tanks, the excavation of which was formerly regarded as an act of merit, have now dried up for want of proper repairs.

SANJIVANI.

50. The same paper says that it has in a previous article shewn

The physical strength of the Bengali race.

that the Bengali has physical strength enough to enter the army. England is ruining the country it has undertaken to govern. England is a votary of the theory of equality, but under its rule the natives are becoming gradually weak and short-lived. Englishmen had the reputation of being impartial and truthful, and it was for that reason that the ancestors of the natives entrusted the administration of the country in their hands.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 8th, 1884.

51. The *Prabhāti*, of the 8th November, says that it does not agree

The license tax.

with the Lieutenant-Governor in holding that people gladly pay the license tax, that many are not aware of the existence of the tax, and that officers do not harass people at the time of realising the tax. The writer says that from petty shop-keepers to great merchants all know of the existence of the tax, and that those who pay know what harassment they have to undergo.

GRAMVARTA
PRAKASHIKA,
Nov. 8th, 1884.

52. The *Grāmvartā Prakāshikā*, of the 8th November, says that

Famine in Bengal.

famine has made its appearance in the district of Moorshedabad. The cultivators are in despair. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, pitying the wretched condition of the people, has telegraphed to the Supreme Government for two lakhs of rupees. With that money construction of roads, excavation of canals, and the construction of the Ranaghat-Bhagwangola Railway will be undertaken with a view to provide the famine-stricken with work. The writer is grateful to His Honor for this act of generosity.

His Honor came last week to inspect the relief works in Beerbhoom. He has seen the wretchedness of the people with his own eyes, and it is sure he will try his best to alleviate their misery. His Honor is really laying the people under great obligation.

53. The same paper says that a notification has been issued to the effect that the Bombay Government will appoint pleaders to defend undefended prisoners accused of murder before the High Court or the Courts of Sessions. The writer says that a similar notification should be issued by the Government of Bengal also.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.
Nov. 8th, 1884.

54. The same paper is glad to learn from the *East* newspaper that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal has expressed his displeasure with Mr. Mariott for severely beating a student of the Dacca Medical School. Mr. Mariott will not be allowed to join his appointment until he can give a satisfactory explanation of his conduct. The Dacca students would have been spared the whippings, and the Kishnagore students all their troubles if His Honor had been a little severe from the very beginning.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

55. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Khesara, in the vicinity of the Sunderbuns, says that last year was a bad year in the Sunderbuns. The people always suffer from want in the month of Kartik, but they obtain their livelihood by selling firewood from the neighbouring jungles. But this year Government does not allow anybody to go beyond the forest station without a license, that is, without payment in advance. But the poor people have not the means of purchasing a license. Even if they can purchase one with borrowed money procured with great difficulty, they are not unfrequently devoured by tigers in the wilds of the Sunderbuns where they are not allowed to carry arms under the blessed law of Lord Lytton. The writer thinks that Government should do something for the protection of its helpless subjects.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

56. The same correspondent of the same paper says that the village of Khesara supplies the Mamudkati post-office with almost all its work, and yet the villagers after much endeavour have not yet succeeded in securing a permanent village postman. There is a mystery in this matter, which the writer promises to divulge in his next letter.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

57. A correspondent named Haru, writing from Danhorebagicha in Kumarkhali to the same paper, says that neither the autumn nor the winter crop has grown on account of the drought, and the plants of stunted growth were again destroyed by the inundations of the Padma. After the destruction of these two principal crops the hopes of the cultivators centred in the *rabi* crop, but even that has been ruined by these destructive inundations.

GRANVARTA
PRAKASHIKA.

58. The *Uchit Vaktá*, of the 8th November, says that Anglo-Indians are angry with native papers because they expose their oppressions. The writer says that native editors will not desist from doing their duties owing to the fear of a Press Act.

UCHIT VAKTA,
Nov. 8th, 1884.

59. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 8th November, is glad that the High Court has transferred Laluram Panday's case from Purneah to Mozufferpore.

URDU GUIDE,
Nov. 8th, 1884.

60. The same paper says that the substitution of the Kaithi character for Urdu in the courts of Behar has occasioned much inconvenience, and it is because the Editor sees this that he has consistently opposed that measure.

URDU GUIDE.

DACCA PRAKASH,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

61. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 9th November, says that it is a great misfortune that Lord Ripon retires from India before his term of office is over. Though

Lord Ripon.

he has not been able to fulfil the expectations he raised, and though he has shewn great weakness in accepting the compromise in connection with the Ilbert Bill, yet it is sure that with such an honest and God-fearing man on the throne, Europeans would not have got opportunities to oppress the people to their hearts' content.

DACCA PRAKASH.

62. The same paper says that the students of Bengal are becoming haughty, turbulent, and vicious as a result of their receiving an education without moral

Moral training at schools.

training, and through the example of professors who also have received no such training. Atheism has become rampant in the country. Government with its eyes wide open could not recommend the introduction of moral training at schools. Under such circumstances moral lessons should be imparted in home.

DACCA PRAKASH.

63. The same paper gives a summary of the proceedings of a meeting of the zemindars and talukdars held at Dacca, and says that Government has perhaps by

The Tenancy Bill.

this time understood from the protests it has received from every quarter that the Tenancy Bill will benefit no one. It should therefore carefully consider that measure. It should not ruin one class to benefit another.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

64. The *Sádháraní*, of the 9th November, says that Indians see pure selfishness in English rule and English trade. They have learnt for the first time

Lord Ripon.

from Lord Ripon's actions that there are God-like men even among the English nation. The abuse poured upon him by his countrymen will only increase his glory. Lord Ripon is conscientious. He never swerves even by a hair's breadth from the path of rectitude. In the matter of the Alabama claim, in the Ilbert Bill concordat, in the Rent Bill question, in every work undertaken by him, Lord Ripon has tried to do justice to both the contending parties. Little minds cannot appreciate the work of such a man. For this reason he is so unpopular with his countrymen. For this reason also the zemindars are not his admirers. But history writes the names of such men alone in golden characters. Lord Ripon has greatly benefited Indians by awakening in their hearts a national feeling by his policy of self-government. It does not appear probable that India would have derived any extraordinary benefit from the passing of the Ilbert Bill intact. But the writer considers the race feeling which has been awakened in the minds of Indians during the Ilbert Bill agitation, a hopeful sign. This race-feeling will make Indians men. The most blind person has now come to know whether Englishmen love or hate natives and whether they will love or hate Indians in future. The Viceroy of India should be a firm-hearted man. But firmness of heart is seldom found in conjunction with conscientiousness. For this reason Washingtons, Lincolns, and Bentincks are so rare. Lord Ripon is not so firm-hearted as conscientious. Had he possessed a little more firmness he would have been known as a second Bentinck. Owing to his mildness he has not been able to break the civilian bureaucracy. So long as the civilian bureaucracy is not broken, India will not prosper, and British rule in India will not be lasting. Had he been able to break the civilian bureaucracy, India would have been greatly benefited, and the glory of England would have been supreme in Asia. Bengal, if not the whole of India, has been slightly injured by his mildness. Mr. Thompson, who has aroused race animosity, has escaped dismissal only owing to the mildness of Lord

Ripon. The non-dismissal of Mr. Thompson is a stain upon Lord Ripon's character.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

65. The same paper says that the cries of the English and native landlords and of their advocates have alarmed Government. If the Rent Bill is passed in its present shape, the ryots will be ruined. The ryots have no association and no organs. They have no unpaid or paid advocates. If, under these circumstances, Government also becomes partial to the zemindars, who will befriend the ryots? The Bengal ryots are pointing out the defects of the Bill in petitions to Government. Will not the Viceroy, the Lieutenant-Governor, and the Legislative Council listen to their complaints? Many hoped that the Bill would put an end to the quarrel between the zemindars and the ryots about free sale, fixity of tenure, and fair rate. But this hope has been disappointed. The ryots are protesting, and Mr. Reynolds has protested against the provision that zemindars will be able to charge rent at the prevailing rate. The Bengal Government also has not approved of the provision. The lands of many ryots come under the possession of zemindars for various reasons. The zemindars fix the rents of these lands as they please. Gradually this arbitrary rate becomes the prevailing rate. The new Bill provides that the zemindars will be able to enhance rent when a rise takes place in the price of the crops. But this is very unjust. The price of crops rises without any effort or expenditure on the part of the zemindar. The zemindars again do not reduce the rent when the prices of crops fall. Why then should they be allowed to enhance rent when a rise takes place in the price of crops? This is against political economy and sound political principles. The writer is alarmed at no definite rate of rent being fixed, and at the leaving of the matter in the hands of the zemindars. The ryots also are protesting against this. The ryots maintain that there has been always a fixed rate of rent. The ryots pray, and the writer desires that the rent of no sort of land should exceed one-sixth of the outturn. There should be a rule that the zemindar will not be able to compel a ryot, who has occupied land for 20 years, to pay rent at an enhanced rate. The Lieutenant-Governor has asked for the repeal of the provision to the above effect in the former Act, in order to please the zemindars. But the writer can by no means approve of this step.

66. The same paper says that it will be a very happy thing if the Government can diffuse mass education without doing any injury to high education.

SADHARANI.

Government and mass education. It is admitted, on all hands, that the more the number of village schools increases, the more will education be diffused among the masses. In order to make mass education really useful, the system followed in England should be adopted. In England the subjects taught in the primary schools are language, history, geography, hygiene, the fine arts, chemistry, botany, and other necessary subjects. This system should be adopted here also. Government should not sit silent by urging the plea of want of money. It should reduce expenditure in other directions, and increase the educational expenditure. The Viceroy is not in favour of an educational law. He desires to leave the matter of education to the discretion of the local Governments. He also desires that when the Local and District Boards are formed, these Boards should be entrusted with the charge of mass education. The writer supports these proposals. He says that if Government spends as much money as it can upon mass education, the hopes of the people will be fulfilled. The writer also does not object to the proposal that no other subject should be taught in English in the middle class schools, except English literature, knowing that the people will not improve so long as the national language does not improve. Good, and not bad, results will be produced if Government defrays the expenses

of the Government colleges, and entrusts natives with their management. The writer does not desire that a different system of education should be introduced for Mussulmans. The more closely Hindus and Mussulmans are knit together in sympathy, the more will the country be benefited. The Mussulmans should not object to this arrangement if they seek their own welfare.

SADHARANI,
Nov. 9th, 1884.

67. The same paper says that the *Englishman* is saying that the election of the Municipal Commissioners who had resigned is not legal. The question should be decided in the High Court. The *Englishman* has also hinted at the question whether Baboo Surendro Nath, who had been imprisoned, can be elected as a Municipal Commissioner. The writer says that there has been great interruption of business owing to the resignation of the Commissioners. If the re-elected Commissioners are again driven out, there will be much confusion. Mr. Thompson is the root of all this mischief.

SADHARANI.

68. The same paper says that the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882 District Magistrates and records of proceedings before subordinate courts. has taken away from District Magistrates the power to call for the record of any proceeding before a Subordinate Magistrate vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class. A District Magistrate called for the record of a proceeding before a Subordinate Magistrate in spite of this. This came to the notice of the High Court. The High Court has declared that the District Magistrate has no right to exercise such authority. Upon this the civilians sought the protection of Mr. Thompson. Mr. Thompson requested the Viceroy to alter the law. But he has not complied with the request, but has told Mr. Thompson to refer the question to a full bench of the High Court if he pleases. This has produced great agitation among the civilians.

SADHARANI.

69. The same paper says that the Nawab Nazim of Murshidabad, who has recently died, was a broken-hearted man. A large sum of money belonging to him was deposited with Government. Many persons say that Government did not return the Nawab his money though he suffered much from want of it.

SADHARANI.

70. A correspondent of the same paper says that much crop in Backergunge has been destroyed by the recent rains and storm. The state of the roads in Nalchiti has not improved owing to the want of leisure on the part of the Vice-Chairman, who has also to attend to other duties.

SADHARANI.

71. Another correspondent of the same paper says that Nawab Abdul Luteef is the Chairman of the Baranagore Municipality. The writer condemns his proceedings. He issued on the 15th October orders for election. But the public could not know the orders till the 24th. The electors were allowed 14 days only from the date on which the order was issued for sending in the names of the Commissioners. But as the electors received the order on the 24th, they had five days only for sending in the names of the intended Commissioners. Instead of also making known the names of the electors, he has fixed the 6th of November for hearing the prayers and objections of the voters.

SADHARANI.

72. A correspondent of the same paper says that there was a military display at Fulta. The inhabitants of adjacent villages had to remove for this reason. The correspondent complains that the inhabitants of several villages did not receive notice to remove in due time. They were ordered to remove by the police the night before the event. Many persons from other villages had taken shelter in those villages.

73. The *Samaya*, of the 10th November, says that in the course of a month Lord Ripon, the best Viceroy India ever had, will leave its shores. All India

Lord Ripon and the zemindars.

mourns the approaching departure of their beloved Viceroy. But the zemindars of Bengal and Behar are silent—why so? Why can they not join their countrymen in honouring Lord Ripon? A few only have joined in the movement, but the majority of the zemindars have made the introduction of the Tenancy Bill a grievance against Lord Ripon. But is Lord Ripon responsible for the Tenancy Bill? Sir Ashley Eden was the father of the Bill, but he was worshipped in the houses of the zemindars, and meetings were held by them to perpetuate his memory. But Lord Ripon endeavoured from the beginning to see that no injustice was done to the zemindars. He ascertained the views of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. He consulted Magistrates, Collectors, Judges, and Munsifs. He was not satisfied with the first expression of their opinion, and he consulted them for a second time. He made a big zemindar of Behar a member of his Council, and asked the zemindars to send a representative to his Council, and still the zemindars are not satisfied. Even if the zemindars do not come forward great preparations will still be made to accord Lord Ripon a hearty farewell. It is rumoured that the zemindars are acting under the advice of Anglo-Indians. If the zemindars cannot distinguish their friends from their enemies, they will soon have to repent for it.

74. The same paper is sorry to hear that the Commissioners of the

The Commissioners re-elected by the rate-payers of Calcutta.

Calcutta Municipality who resigned their offices on account of the bad treatment they received from the Government of Bengal have been re-elected by the rate-payers, while the Sanitary Committee appointed under section 28 is still holding its sittings. The writer does not think that by accepting re-election the Commissioners have been able to preserve their self-respect. There is no harm in being re-elected, but the writer says that they should not join their office as long as the Sanitary Committee is holding its sittings. The Defence Association says that the re-election of the Commissioners is illegal, but the writer holds a different view. There is nothing in the municipal law which can make re-election invalid.

SAMAYA.

75. The same paper does not think that Government treated the

The death of the ex-Nawab Nazim of Bengal.

Nawab Nazim of Bengal well in his latter days. The title of Nawab Nazim was taken away from his family. This was very painful to him, and the rumour has it that he died of a broken heart. When he came to Calcutta for the first time, during the administration of Lord William Bentinck, the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief walked on foot by the side of his palki, and this very Nawab died in a wretched condition.

SAMAYA.

The death of Mr. Fawcett.

dead.

76. The same paper is sorry to learn that Mr. Fawcett the great friend of, India is

SAMAYA.

77. The same paper is glad to notice that Lord Ripon has expressed his

Lord Ripon on Mr. Webb's case.

disapprobation on the action of Mr. MacLeod, the Assistant Commissioner of Jorehat, in inflicting a slight punishment on Mr. Webb for his serious offence, and that he has also expressed his regret that the Crown was not represented in the case when it was referred to the High Court. The writer is very glad to peruse the minute of Lord Ripon. The native press has unanimously declared that Mr. Webb got off with very slight punishment, and the Viceroy says the same thing. But what punishment does the criminal get for his offence?

SAMAYA.

SAMAYA,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

78. The same paper is glad to learn that preparations are being made at every station to accord a hearty reception to the Viceroy on his way from the hills to Calcutta, and that a monster meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Calcutta, to present him an address. The writer hears that certain officers are endeavouring to throw obstacles in the way of giving Lord Ripon a reception. He will publish the names of these officers when he comes to know them.

SAMAYA.

79. The same paper is glad to hear that Baboo Amrita Lall Chatterji has been appointed for six months the Additional Civil and Assistant Sessions Judge of Bhagulpore.

SAMAYA.

80. The same paper says that Mr. Thompson is very much against the native papers. These papers never abused the Lieutenant-Governor in the way the Anglo-Indian papers abused the Viceroy; but Lord Ripon does not say a word against the Anglo-Indian press. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has not ventured to say anything against the Anglo-Indian press, but he is very hard upon the native press.

SAMAYA.

81. The same paper says that the *Englishman* spares no opportunity to vilify Lord Ripon. It now abuses him for the part he has taken in the Tenancy Bill. The Bill is for Bengal. The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is its supporter, and if he had been opposed to it, the Bill would have been dropped long ago; but the *Englishman* has not a word to say against him.

SAMAYA.

82. The same paper is glad to notice that Government has ordered that the title of "Maharajah Bahadoor" should be hereditary in the Cooch Behar family. The writer does not understand why the Maharajah of Cooch Behar is so anxious for this honor. His subjects will always address him as Maharajah Bahadoor, any decision of Government to the contrary notwithstanding.

SAMAYA.

83. The same paper is very glad to learn that the people of Lahore have collected a large subscription to erect a Town Hall named after Lord Ripon to perpetuate his memory. Mere speeches are of no use.

SAMAYA.

84. The same paper learns that the Viceroy elect has, at an interview with Mr. Gladstone, expressed his determination to instantly resign his Viceroyalty in case the Ministry interfere with his work in India. This has filled the writer with alarm. This does not augur well. The Governor-General is surrounded by civilians who are not very good friends of the natives.

SAMAYA.

85. The same paper publishes an article communicated to it. The heading of the article is "The Bengali is not a rebel, but a loyal subject." We extract the following observations from the article:—

Now-a-days it is a common saying with Englishmen that Bengalis are rebels, they sow the seed of discontent on every side of India, and that they make speeches against the English and endeavour to unite the different nationalities of India. But as far as can be gathered from history it appears to be undisputed that the English merchants established themselves in Bengal with the help of the political talent of the Bengali race. They were tired with the beastly oppression and demoniac conduct of the Nawab Surajuddowla, and so they conspired to dethrone the powerful Nawab and set up the English merchant on the throne. Bengalis did not change their character from that time

to the time of the administration of Lord Lytton, and no one knows when the change in their national character took place. The sudden enactment of Act IX of 1878 shewed that Bengalis had commenced to shew the signs of a rebellious spirit. All was quiet for some time till the introduction of the Ilbert Bill shewed again that Bengalis were rebels. But in what did their rebelliousness consist? It was nothing else than this—The Viceroy wanted to establish equality of all the subjects in the eye of the law and Bengalis were beside themselves with joy at such a proposal, and prayed that the Viceroy might enjoy a long life. All Bengalis, whether educated or uneducated, whether young or old, desire with all their heart the permanance of British rule in India. If there is any nation which appreciates the goodness of the English, it is the Bengali nation. If the English should trust any nation in India, it is the Bengali nation which they should trust. The Bengali newspapers did not approve of the conduct of Mr. Webb when he violated the chastity of Sukermani. Does this constitute their rebelliousness? The Bengali papers have the good of their rulers at their heart. It was the violation of chastity that cost Sirajuddowla his kingdom. Men can put up with all sorts of oppression, but they cannot tolerate the idea that their females should be violated with impunity. The Bengal newspapers wish that such a case may not occur in future. The Bengali does not like that the fame of the English nation should be tarnished by the brutal conduct of a low class Englishman. This is not rebelliousness. This is loyalty. If this is rebelliousness, there is no loyalty in this world.

86. The *Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 10th November, admits the desirability of maintaining the Presidency College for the excellence of its teaching in

The Presidency College.

science till the time when the number of native scientific men returning from England after finishing their education will be so great as to make dependence on Government for scientific teaching unnecessary.

87. The *Som Prakásh*, of the 10th November, contains a poem (communicated) in which the writer says that the whole of India is shedding tears at the

Lord Ripon.

prospect of Lord Ripon's departure. The writer requests Lord Ripon to say to every one in Parliament that there is no limit to the misery of India.

88. The same paper says that the Civilians are very much dissatisfied at the appointment of Dewan Ram Nath as a District Judge in the Punjab by Sir Charles Aitchison. The local Postmaster-General has

Civilians and the appointment of natives to high posts.

remonstrated against this action of the Lieutenant-Governor, as the self-appointed champion of the Civilians. The Indian Civilians think themselves wronged if a native is appointed to a high post. It is a matter of regret that the Civilians are so narrow-hearted when the English Government has become so noble. The policy of not appointing natives, however able, to high posts is not only partial, but has also the effect of discouraging merit. The writer says that there are many worthless persons among the Civilians of this country. The Civil Service Examination should be abolished. The writer recommends that a Committee should be formed in England for selecting officials for India. Those only who will give proofs of their ability in the public service in England should be selected as officials for India by the Committee. Those Indians also who will give proofs of their ability in the public service of this country should be appointed to the higher posts.

89. The same paper says that considerable distress prevails in Burdwan Bankoora, Moorshedabad, and several places in the Sonthal Pergunnahs. The writer says that many persons in the above named districts cannot get sufficient food throughout the year even in years of good

The distress of the people in several districts.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

SOM PRAKASH,
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SOM PRAKASH.

SOM PRAKASH.

harvest. These people subsist upon loathsome food and dwell in jungles like wild beasts. Government may in a considerable measure remove the misery of the people of those districts by clearing and deepening from time to time the small rivers of those districts all of which are connected with one or the other of the large rivers Damodar, Ajaya, and Mayuraskhi, and which are dry except in years of sufficient rainfall, and by letting water flow in the small rivers from the large rivers above named. If this is done the ryots will be able to irrigate their fields with the water of these small rivers in years of drought or insufficient rainfall. Government will also greatly benefit the ryots if it lends them money without interest or at small interest.

SOM PRAKASH,
Nov. 10th, 1894.

90. The same paper says that the English Government has been always merchants. It cannot free itself from this mercantile spirit in any work

The Excise Department.
in which it may be engaged. The officials trample upon justice, decency, and morality in seeking to increase the excise revenue. The worthy ruler who first introduced the outstill system said to a gentleman who protested against it that it would not be injurious. In order to increase the excise revenue Government has ruled that those who will sell excisable articles will have to take out a license, and that the licenses should be granted to the highest bidders. The Excise Department, says the writer, is a dark stain upon the character of Government. It is a matter of deep regret that the civilized English Government is earning money by paving the way for the ruin of its subjects. Parents who make their sons vicious by placing temptations before them are never obeyed by the latter. For these reasons Government should reform the Excise Department.

SOM PRAKASH.

91. The same paper says that Lord Dufferin, in replying to the address of a deputation that waited upon him, said that he could not decide upon any

subject without listening to both sides and without being acquainted with all the circumstances of a case. There is great probability of the people being benefited by the rule of one who does not wish to take any action without considering all the circumstances of a case. He has also said in Belfast that the people of India have now become educated and filled with high aspirations, and that these aspirations should be fulfilled.

SOM PRAKASH.

92. The same paper cannot but thank Mr. Blunt and other good Englishmen who are praying for justice towards India.

What Indians want.

Many Englishmen who are hostile to Indians say that in order to satisfy Indians the English will have to leave India after entrusting natives with self-government. Indians, says the writer, do not want this. Indians, as Mr. Blunt has rightly said, only want that they should have some share in the administration of their country.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 10th, 1894.

93. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 10th November, says that Lord Dufferin has said in Belfast that it would be his endeavour to make every class in India—

the ryots, the zemindars, the European planters, and the native princes—happy. He also paid a very high compliment to the Indian civilians. The writer says that these words which have been uttered for pleasing every class in India smell of diplomacy. The painter who tries to please every body pleases no body. If instead of speaking in the above way, the new Viceroy had said that he would govern India according to the principles of justice and righteousness, Indians would have been glad and reassured. Lord Dufferin is a diplomatist. The Anglo-Indians are afraid of the Russian bear. Indians are always uneasy, owing to the apprehension that the Anglo-Indians may needlessly waste Indian blood and treasure by engaging in a war with Russia. Lord Lytton, who was a diplomatist, ruined the country.

Indians were very much uneasy owing to the apprehension that Lord Dufferin might do the same. But they have been reassured by his assurances of peace.

94. The same paper says that a true friend of India like Lord Ripon can never be hostile to high education in this country. Lord Ripon has, perhaps, concluded

Government and education.

from the satisfactory management of several colleges in Calcutta, without the assistance of Government, that the people have now come to perceive the value of education, and that they will soon be able to maintain the Government colleges at their own expense. It would be a mistake, says the writer, to conclude from the fact that private colleges and schools can be maintained in Calcutta that such schools and colleges can be maintained in the mofussil also. It does not also appear probable that even the people of Calcutta will be soon able to defray the expenses of the local Government colleges. They may undertake the work of management, but Government should defray the expenses for some time longer. The writer makes the following recommendations on the subject of education:—(1) that a larger number of able graduates of the Calcutta University should be taken into the Syndicate; (2) that the work of management of the Government colleges should be entrusted to a Committee, the majority of the members of which should be natives; (3) that the number of native professors in the Presidency College, who are quite as able to discharge their professional duties by giving notes on Literature, Mathematics and Psychology as the English professors, should be increased; (4) that, instead of appointing inferior men as professors, the authorities should appoint persons of European celebrity to lecture for a term of six months, in the year by which arrangement not only will the students be better educated, but also quarrels which now break out between the students and the present Anglo-Indian professors, who are more or less hostile to natives, will cease. The writer condemns the present system of superficial education, which attaches the greatest importance to the learning of English idioms.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
Nov. 10th, 1884.

95. The same paper says that there are in all 2,233 miles of canal in India. Of this, only 100 miles yield a profit. The remaining portion causes loss.

The Indian canals.

The writer is tired of asking the Public Works and Finance ministers to devise means for making the canals profitable.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

96. The same paper says that the Civilian Lieutenant-Governor,

Mr. Thompson and civilian influence.

Mr. Thompson, will always lay himself open to blame by acting against the dictates of his head and heart at the instigation of the Civilians. So long as Mr. Thompson is ruler, Bengalis will be subjected to the sufferings which are inevitable under a ruler who is under the influence of the powerful Civilian body. The writer says, a District Magistrate tried to exercise the power taken away from Magistrates by the amended Criminal Procedure Code by calling for the record of a proceeding before a Subordinate Magistrate possessing the power of a Magistrate of the first class. The case came up before the High Court. The High Court declared that the Magistrate did not possess, under section 435 of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1882, the power to exercise such authority over a Magistrate vested with the power of a Magistrate of the first class. The Magistrates and the Commissioners began to cry against the decision of the High Court. This cry reached Mr. Thompson who is devoted to the Civilians. He was enraged at the prospect of the decrease of the power of English civilians, and requested Lord Ripon to alter the law. But Lord Ripon has not complied with his request.

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NAVAVIBHAKAR,
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97. The same paper says that it has shewn in the preceding article how Mr. Thompson is eager to comply with the requests of Civilians, however unreasonable these may be. But the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab is firm amidst the loud but unreasonable complaints of the Civilians. Until quite recently the executive and judicial functions were closely mixed up. This arrangement was not very favourable to the promotion of the Civilians. But recently new arrangements, favourable to Civilians, have been made. But as in common decency the members of the Uncovenanted Service could not be deprived of all high posts, some consideration has been extended to them. As there are natives in the Uncovenanted Service, some consideration has been shewn to them also. For this reason Dewan Ram Nath has been appointed a District Judge, but he will draw lower salary than the English District Judges. But the Punjab Civilians have become enraged even at this scanty justice to the native officer. The Civilian Postmaster-General has protested against the appointment as the self-appointed champion of his brother Civilians. But Sir Charles Aitchison has clearly shewn in his minute that the Civilians' complaint is unreasonable.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

98. The same paper can say from its experience that the complaints of the Orissa ryots about the canal oppression are not unfounded. Their prayers also are reasonable. Because the Lieutenant-Governor thinks that the prayers of the ryots are reasonable, His Honor has appointed a Commission to enquire into the matter.

The Orissa Canal oppression.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

99. The same paper says that the conscientious Viceroy has not been able to remain silent after the miscarriage of justice in the Webb case. He has addressed a letter to the Chief Commissioner of Assam condemning the proceeding of the Assistant Commissioner who first tried the case. The writer says that natives will forget half the cruelty of Webb after reading Lord Ripon's letter. If those who censure Lord Ripon do not cease to do so after reading this letter, the writer will conclude that they are heartless. He who does not see the hand of Lord Ripon in the punishment of Mr. Tayler and Major Ramsay, and in the release of the Salem prisoners, is surely blind. What Viceroy ever kept such a vigilant watch upon the proceedings of subordinate officials? When Lord Ripon leaves the country, people will clearly see what a great friend he was of natives.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

100. The same paper says that all the Municipal Commissioners who had resigned their seats have been re-elected with the exception of three. Does not the Lieutenant-Governor understand from this that the rate-payers repose confidence in the Commissioners? The *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* are saying that the re-election of the Commissioners who had resigned is illegal. Probably the High Court will be asked to decide whether the election of these Commissioners is illegal, and whether Baboo Surendro Nath is incapable of becoming a Commissioner under section 23 of the Municipal Act. The writer advises the Government to desist from prolonging the scandal.

The re-election of the Municipal Commissioners who had resigned.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

101. The same paper says that it is glad that the 29th of November has been fixed as the date for the election of Municipal Commissioners in the mofussil instead of the 25th, which is a mail day. But the Lieutenant-Governor should consider the chief grievance. All the people are of opinion that election will be impracticable under the new rules. Such an important work cannot be done in such haste.

The rules about municipal election in the mofussil.

102. The same paper says that the persons who are entitled to the gratitude of the Salem prisoners are Lord Ripon and Bejoy Raghub Chari. Mr. Grant Duff would have proved his purity of heart if he had candidly acknowledged his error, and said that he was releasing the Salem prisoners as he now entertained doubts about their guilt. Mr. Wigram, says the writer, disgraced the Judicial Bench by importing political considerations in the sentence passed by him. He would have kept the Salem prisoners in jail till their death if other persons had committed riot in that place. Mr. Grant Duff has lowered himself in the estimation of the public by trying to evade the humiliation of admitting error with the help of Mr. Wigram's strange recommendation.

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Mr. Fawcett's death.

103. The same paper mourns the death of Mr. Fawcett.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

104. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 10th November, contains an article headed "The Lieutenant-Governor and the jury system," from which we extract the following observations:—It has been remarked before in these columns that Mr. Thompson is an advocate of the system of trial-by-jury, and that he has effectually silenced the Commissioner Mr. Beames, the Judge Mr. Beveridge, and other opponents of that system, by the argument that in the case of a difference between Judge and jury the former can refer the whole question to the High Court.

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The people and the officials alike would be benefited if the system of trial-by-jury were introduced. The work of trying criminals has a tendency to blunt the feelings of the Judge, and it is a fact that not a few judges realize with painful vividness the responsibility that attaches to them in the matter of passing capital sentences. It would be a relief to the Judges if they could share this responsibility with a jury. The introduction of the system would indeed slightly curtail the powers of the Judge—a change which might not prove agreeable to some. But considering the evil that arises from the punishment of the innocent, the wounded vanity of a few officials must be held to be of no very great consequence. The Judges in this country, who are mostly Christians, would naturally, in obedience to the precepts of their Lord, be slow to try and condemn others. They should therefore consider it desirable to have the aid of a jury.

Europeans in this country have been granted the right of trial-by-jury—a right not yet conferred upon natives. Owing to this the latter not unoften trouble the former. Once the prayer of natives in this matter is granted they will cease to trouble the Europeans. If, again, natives were granted the right, the public would be in a position to compare the work of the European jury with that of the native, and this comparison would serve to place the one as a check upon the other. In his resolution on the police report, Mr. Thompson has repeatedly stated his conviction that many innocent men in this country suffer punishment through miscarriage of justice. His Honour has further expressed great concern for such men. The introduction of the system of trial-by-jury would be a great relief to Mr. Thompson. His Honour has admitted that there are many persons in this country who can constitute an able and impartial jury. The help of such a jury would be of inestimable value to the judges who are mostly foreigners in this country, unacquainted with the language and manners and customs of the people. Now that Mr. Thompson has publicly supported the system of trial by jury, it behoves His Honour to confer the right upon the people, and thus leave an imperishable fame behind him.

105. The same paper observes that a perusal of the Government resolution on the outstill system shows the difficulty under which Mr. Thompson laboured

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when he recorded it. As a sincere Christian, Mr. Thompson cannot but disapprove of a system which favours the increase of drunkenness; at the same time considerations of revenue have their due influence over him. He has, therefore, in one place subordinated revenue considerations to the necessity of checking the growth of intemperance, while in another place he has skillfully expressed concern for the interests of revenue.

The Outstill Commissioners have remarked that it is true that the number of those that drink liquor has increased since the introduction of the outstill system, but that the fact is not due to that circumstance, inasmuch as the increase in question would not have occurred if Government had exercised an efficient supervision in this respect. The Lieutenant-Governor concurs in both these remarks of the Commission. Nevertheless, these observations have not perfectly satisfied His Honour. That the increase of drunkenness has been brought about since the introduction of the outstill system, Mr. Thompson has been all along aware, but that this increase has been due to anything like laxity of official supervision is an idea which is far from agreeable to him. There is, however, one statement in the Commission's report which has, doubtless, removed all his doubts. The Commission has stated that before the introduction of the outstill system, owing to the illicit sale and consumption of liquor, Government had to annually put up with a loss of Rs. 7,75,000. Besides this, it was found necessary to maintain a preventive establishment, the members of which not unoften arrested innocent people and brought them to punishment. All this has ceased to exist since the new system came into vogue. This statement has greatly helped Mr. Thompson in arriving at a decision. He was so long being drawn in two different directions by the force of two opposing lines of reasoning, namely, religion and revenue. With the aid of the above argument revenue has triumphed over religion. Mr. Thompson has probably calculated that the amount of evil—illicit sale of liquor, loss of revenue, and punishment of the innocent—under the old system was altogether greater than the amount of evil—increase of drunkenness—under the new. He has therefore retained the new system, with only a few unimportant modifications. Nevertheless, the public are obliged to His Honour for the anxiety shown by him to check the increase of drunkenness. Persistent agitation will, it is hoped, lead the authorities gradually to do away with the outstill system.

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106. The same paper remarks that it would have been well if the authorities had transferred the case of Laluram Panday, of Purneah, to the High Court.

They have transferred it to Mozufferpore, and this will, doubtless, remove many disadvantages under which the defendant would have laboured if the trial had taken place in Purneah. But as in Purneah, so in Mozufferpore, the indigo-planters possess great influence. The case ought to be tried in a place where neither the plaintiff nor the defendant possessed any influence.

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107. The same paper remarks that it is really difficult to determine the true facts of the Purneah case. Certain circumstances connected with this case have,

however, caused uneasiness to natives. They do not, for instance, see why the Magistrate of Purneah let off Mr. Walker without going into evidence, or why he did not grant even a short adjournment to Laluram Panday, even though the latter's prayer was supported by his Counsel from Calcutta. They do not again understand the reason why the pleaders of Purneah refused to defend Laluram Panday, or why it was that all Europeans in Purneah attended the court on the day Mr. Walker's case was heard. It is not again clear why the Magistrate suspended Laluram Panday, and directed that he should be criminally prosecuted on a grave charge, the moment Mr. Walker was

discharged. Why was Laluram Panday singled out for exemplary punishment when it is notorious, and is even admitted by the Lieutenant-Governor himself, that the police send up many persons for trial without sufficient cause, and are rarely adequately punished for it? All these have caused great uneasiness in the minds of natives, and they are eagerly awaiting the result of the trial. It is of course well known that the police is given to oppression, but the question arises—Would the police venture to act high-handedly towards a respectable European, and particularly after the Jurisdiction Bill agitation? This question is greatly exercising the public mind. If Laluram Panday is guilty, he should by all means be condignly punished; but if there be any injustice in this case, the police will not in future venture to investigate any criminal case against a European, and such a contingency arising, Europeans and other influential men will become extremely highhanded.

108. The same paper remarks, in reference to Mr. Thompson's observation that distilleries may be established in place of outstills in those localities where it

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The outstill system. may be possible to exercise efficient supervision, that if Mr. Thompson had intended to act upon this principle, outstills would have been abolished in all towns and all chief municipalities in Bengal. The abolition of the outstills in Bhagulpore and certain other places is not therefore due to the above consideration, but to the fact that the introduction of the outstill system into those places has resulted in a loss of revenue. The Lieutenant-Governor has further remarked that the Board of Revenue will in future fix the selling price and the strength of liquor. But will not this, if the contemplated arrangement is to be given effect to, necessitate Governmental supervision and prove a source of oppression, which, according to the Report of the Outstill Commission, was removed by the introduction of the outstill system?

109. The same paper asks that the Hon'ble Kumar Bykuntha Nath De, of Balasore, should be appointed a member of the Canal Commission recently appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor. All the three members being Europeans, it is desirable that a native gentleman should sit on the Commission to represent the interests of natives.

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110. The same paper remarks that the letter of the Indian Government, on the subject of the Webb case, clearly shows the high statesmanship of Lord Ripon. His Excellency has clearly perceived that in this country justice is not done in cases in which Europeans wrong natives, and that continuance of this state of things is likely to lead to evil consequences.

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111. The same paper thinks that some of the newly published municipal election rules will not prove beneficial. The editor points out that the rule regarding one year's residence will disqualify many Deputy Magistrates and munsifs who are constantly transferred from one district to another, and that it will further disqualify zemindars having properties in municipalities where they do not reside. The rule that the voters must appear in person to give their votes, and that at least a tenth part of the total number of voters in a ward must be thus present, will produce inconvenience.

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112. The same paper condemns the practice on the part of Government of appointing Europeans as managers of Orissa Tributary States and tutors of the minor zemindars. By this action Government but injures the interests of the minors and serves a few poor and incompetent Europeans.

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113. The same paper praises Mr. Thompson for his visit to Beerbhoom, where famine has made its appearance, and remarks that native papers are always anxious to

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Mr. Thompson.

praise where praise is due ; witness their eulogistic notices of Lord Ripon's public measures.

PRABHATI,
Nov. 11th, 1894.

114. The *Prabhāti*, of the 11th November, says that Lord Ripon has laid the whole population of India under great obligation by his observations on the

Mr. Webb's case.

Webb case. For this act of righteousness he will be happy in this world and in the world to come.

PRABHATI.

115. The same paper says that Small Cause Courts are established in large cities for the administration of cheap and speedy justice. But the decision of a case in the Calcutta Court of Small Causes often takes a very long time. Again, parties to every suit are required to be present every week or every fortnight. This makes litigation extremely expensive. The writer therefore proposes the following reforms if the number of Judges cannot be conveniently increased, viz. (1) in contested cases the day should be fixed once for all at such a distance of time that the parties may not be harassed by frequent attendance ; (2) the fees for pleaders should be fixed ; (3) when a case comes on for hearing it should be heard day after day till it is finished.

Necessity of reforms in the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 11th, 1894.

116. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 11th November, says that the small Eden Canal has conferred a great benefit upon the cultivators in the present year of

Famine in Burdwan.

unusual drought. Whichever portion was irrigated with the water of this canal has yielded a bumper crop. If there be a large number of canals like the Eden Canal, famine can be easily stamped out from the land. The writer cannot say what is the state of things in other districts, but he is sure that Burdwan, Hooghly, and Bankoora can easily be irrigated with water drawn from the Damodar by means of small canals and by the re-excavation of rivers and canals that have silted up. The Government Engineers can prepare an anicut in the same way as they have on the Sone. The water that will pass through the anicut on both sides of the Damodar will be sufficient for the purposes of irrigation for both the districts of Hooghly and of Burdwan. The writer therefore recommends that, instead of spending money in such relief works as the construction of roads, it should be spent in digging canals and dredging small rivers. Government has sufficient funds for the purpose of preventing famines. It can now use that money for alleviating the sufferings of those affected by the present scarcity, and for preventing a recurrence of scarcities in the future. The writer is opposed to levying any water-rates on the ground that the money spent in these works is the people's money. They have paid for the constitution of the famine fund. If the money, instead of being given gratuitously, produces lasting works, the people should be allowed to reap the benefit derivable from such works. If any rate is charged for the canal water, people will not take it at all.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI

117. The same paper says that the number of those that pay the lowest rate of license tax has increased.

The working of the license tax.

Persons with an income below Rs. 500 are exempted from the liability to pay the tax. But the assessors often tax those who do not earn Rs. 500. The number of objections preferred does not appear in the resolution. The resolution sets forth that the people do not much grudge paying the tax. The writer says this is not the fact. They calmly submit to the tax because they find that all their remonstrances prove vain.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

118. The same paper says that the mortality from famines in Bengal is

The causes of the severity of the famines.

owing, not so much to want of food-grains as to want of money. As a rule, the tracts of country which produce rice alone suffer most in event of a famine. Those

tracts which produce other crops fare better. In the tracts which produce rice alone the necessity for canals and tanks is very great. New crops should be introduced, and improved methods of agriculture adopted. But the ryots are poor, and therefore these things should be done either by the Government or by the zemindar.

119. The same paper says that, unless Government has sympathy with a newspaper, the labour of the editor cannot bear fruit. If he can get the sympathy of Government, he can do much good. The editor thanks the Lieutenant-Governor for praising his paper. He expresses his regret that His Honor is so hard upon the *Medini*, which, he says, by its outspokenness, has become unpopular with officers. The writer thinks that Government should have done well if, before speaking ill of the *Medini*, it had taken the trouble to enquire into the truth of the charges brought by that paper against some of the officers.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
Nov. 11th, 1884.

120. A correspondent writing to the same paper from Kutwa says that people are suffering greatly in that sub-division for want of food. The daily earnings of labourers scarcely amount to 2 annas a head, but they cannot get work. The sub-divisional officer has ordered the construction of two roads from the Road Cess Fund, and a large number of men has obtained work thereby.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

121. The *Surabhi*, of the 11th November, says that the people heard of the death of the last lineal descendant of the Emperors of Delhi the other day. The last Nawab Nazim of Moorshedabad has recently died. Government deprived his family of the title of Nawab Nazim.

SURABHI,
Nov. 11th, 1884.

122. The same paper says that the excise revenue for 1883-84 exceeds that of the preceding year by Rs. 6,41,321. The country in which there is such increase in the use of intoxicating articles every year is surely in a perilous situation. Government is facilitating the use of intoxicating articles. Who will not say after this that Government desires to kill the people?

SURABHI.

123. The same paper says that the recurrence of famines prove the necessity of improving agricultural operations. As in Madras, an agricultural school should be established in Bengal and other provinces of India.

SURABHI.

124. The same paper is very glad to learn that Baboo Srinath Roy has been appointed to act as the fourth Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court for some time. The writer hopes that he will be permanently appointed to that post. There are many native officers who can act as Judges of the Small Cause Court with credit. Under these circumstances, the majority of the Judges of that court should be natives. Government will dissatisfy the people if, under these circumstances, it hesitates to appoint even a single native as a Judge of that court.

SURABHI.

125. The same paper mourns the death of Professor Fawcett, and says that India has not suffered less loss than England by his death.

SURABHI.

126. The same paper says that Lord Dufferin paid a very high compliment to the Indian civilians in his speech in Belfast. If his impression about the civilians remains the same even after his arrival in India the country will be very much injured under his administration. He also said in the course of his speech that he would be satisfied with maintaining the peace of the empire. The writer hopes that Lord Dufferin will see, after his arrival

SURABHI.

in the country, that it is the duty of the Viceroy of India to remove the numerous grievances of Indians.

SURABHI.
Nov. 11th, 1884.

127. The same paper is glad that the High Court has granted the prayer of the Sub-Inspector of Purneah for the transfer of his case to another court.

SURABHI.

128. The same paper is very glad to learn that Lord Ripon has appointed Mr. Quinton to report upon the police powers of Magistrates. The writer says that it has become necessary to separate the executive and judicial functions. It is a matter of regret that Lord Ripon will not be able to settle the matter. The writer hopes that Lord Dufferin will not forget to do so.

SURABHI.

129. The same paper says that it is astonished at the shameless hostility shewn towards natives by Indian Civilian. Recently the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab has appointed Dewan Ramnath as a District Judge. This has enraged the Civilian. The local Postmaster-General has, as the mouth-piece of the Civilian, protested against the appointment of Dewan Ramnath as a District Judge.

SURABHI.

130. The same paper says that Lord Ripon's resolution on the Webb case has made it glad, though it does not think that it is in all respects such as one expected from him. The resolution is a clear proof of Lord Ripon's friendliness towards natives. The writer does not think with Lord Ripon that only Mr. McLeod deserves censure. From Lord Ripon's resolution it appears that he fears the High Court Judges, and thinks that it is a sin to blame them. The writer says that Lord Ripon has shewn his want of courage by not condemning the gross injustice which the High Court Judges committed by deciding that the retrial of the case was not necessary. Lord Ripon has expressed his sorrow for the fact that the Crown was not represented by Counsel at the hearing of the case. But instead of expressing sorrow for it he should have severely reproved the officer who neglected to appoint a Counsel to represent the Crown.

**SAMVAD
PURNACHANDRODAYA,**
Nov. 11th, 1884.

131. The *Samvād Purnachandrodaya*, of the 11th November, says that loud lamentation is heard in every part of India. People of all classes are equally miserable. It is said that the English are the incarnations of the Kali or the Iron Age. Many think that people have become prosperous under their rule; but this is a mistake. Natives are becoming more and more sickly and more and more short-lived. Famines and plagues have become frequent. The English have indeed suppressed dacoity, but they are themselves bent upon impoverishing India. India never depended upon any other country for any of her necessities or luxuries. But at present India is losing her all. The English never attend to the happiness of the people, and they do not even consider that by impoverishing India they make their own stopping in that country impossible.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Nov. 12th, 1884.

132. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 12th November, says that there is undoubtedly much discontent in India, but that is not with the English rule but against the selfishness of Anglo-Indians. The ignorant masses are discontented because the Anglo-Indians are given to oppression, but the educated classes know that the British nation at home deserves every respect. The writer of an article in the *St. James' Gazette* would attribute the discontent to the policy of Lord Ripon. But, says the writer, Lord Ripon's administration has impressed the minds of the people with the nobleness of the English nation. It has also shewn how low the Civilian are.

133. The *Prabhāti*, of the 13th November, says that the *St. James' Gazette* attributes the discontent in India to the liberal policy of Lord Ripon. But the

Discontent in India.

writer holds a different view. He says that Lord Ripon has to a great extent removed the discontent generated by the policy which the *Gazette* advocates, and that the untimely retirement of Lord Ripon will have the effect of increasing it. By compelling Lord Ripon to retire before his time it has been proved that the English are not desirous of introducing a liberal line of policy in India. The discontent would have disappeared altogether if narrow-minded Englishmen had not opposed the scheme of self-government and tried to maintain race distinction. If such Englishmen treat the natives well, Russia will not be able to do anything. The stronghold of loyalty in the hearts of the natives will keep all foreign enemies at a distance.

134. The *Samvād Prabhākar*, of the 14th November, says that

The native should not abuse the English.

some of the native newspapers seem to take a pleasure in denouncing Englishmen whenever they find any flaw in them. The writer disapproves of the conduct of those that denounce Englishmen in this way. India was lifeless all this time. She is shewing signs of life only on account of her contact with England. If England gives her up she will again lose her life. The English are not thieves. They are come to give their heart to India. The union of hearts will produce a kingdom of love. Such seems to be the will of Providence! The natives should not hate Englishmen. Let Englishmen hate natives, but let natives love them in return for their hatred. Whenever shortsighted editors write against the English, the writer feels deeply mortified. If an individual Englishman is prone to oppression let the editors write against him in as strong a language as justice demands, but let him not denounce the English nation.

SAMVAD PRABHAKAR,
Nov. 14th, 1884.

135. The *Utkal Dīpikā*, of the 25th October, reports that the opium-smokers of the Cuttack town have been put to great inconvenience owing to the price of

Price of opium in Cuttack.

that intoxicating article having risen to ten annas a bhari. This is due to a certain contractor in Cuttack, who has monopolised all the opium shops of that town. As this is against the rules of the Board of Revenue on the subject of opium sale, the paper hopes that the authorities concerned will take the matter into their favourable consideration.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ,
Oct. 25th, 1884.

136. The same paper regrets to find that the lucrative steamer traffic that was carried on by Government between the stations of Chandbally and Cuttack has been made over to private companies—a

Steamer traffic between Chandbally and Cuttack.

change that has seriously inconvenienced the public. The steamers belonging to Messrs. Bullock and Co. and the Haji are slow and uncomfortable: they do not afford proper accommodation to passengers. Under these circumstances, the paper requests Government to reconsider their order, specially as the business is far from a losing concern in any way.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ.

137. The same paper devotes a large number of its columns to the publication of the translation of the new municipal rules. It exhorts the rate-payers to shake

New municipal election rules.

off their idleness and try by all means to give effect to a law that aims at representative institutions. It is of opinion that the population of the Cuttack town being more than double that of Balasore and Pooree the number of Municipal Commissioners should have been still larger. It further points out that the wards of the Cuttack Municipality have been so imperfectly marked out, that it is difficult to distinguish the jurisdiction of one ward from that of another.

UTKAL DĪPIKĀ.

UTKAL DARPAN,
Oct. 28th, 1884.

138. Understanding that the district grant for primary education in Balasore has increased by Rs. 2,000, the *Utkal Darpan*, of the 28th October, suggests that the increased grant ought to be expended in establishing a certain number of stipendiary primary schools in each outpost of that district.

UTKAL DARPAN.

139. Referring to the appointment of Chairman of the District Board, the same paper remarks that the post may be made elective, as in the case of municipalities. No doubt Magistrates will be elected as Chairmen in many districts; still the members of a District Board should not be deprived of a privilege which rightly belongs to them.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 15th November 1884.